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PATENT  
B208-835 DIV (B422-153 DIV)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gaku Watanabe et al.  
Serial No. : Unassigned (Parent-08/677,824)  
Filed : September 27, 2001  
For : CONTROL SYSTEM AND UNITS  
REMOVABLY ATTACHED TO THE SAME  
Examiner : Unassigned (Parent-J. Grant II)  
Art Unit : Unassigned (Parent-2724)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified divisional application as set forth below prior to  
examination thereof.

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Cancel claims 1-32~~

~~Add claims 33-60 as follows:~~

~~33. An image pickup apparatus, comprising:~~

~~(A) a protection cover operation device which operates a protection cover  
openable and closable to protect an image pickup optical system; and~~

~~(B) a detection device which detects whether or not said image pickup apparatus is  
in an exterior connection state in which said apparatus is functionally connectable to an exterior  
device. --~~

A1